

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A smelting reduction method comprising (a) charging a carbonaceous material and an ore into a reacting furnace to directly contact the carbonaceous material and the ore; (b) reducing the ore until at least a part of the ore is metallized, the resultant reduced ore containing at least a part of metallized metal being produced; (c) charging the carbonaceous material and the ore containing at least a part of the metallized metal from step (b) into a smelting furnace having a metal bath; and (d) blowing a gas containing 20% or more of oxygen into the metal bath in the smelting furnace to produce molten iron.